29 March 2005

English only

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
2005 resumed session
9-20 May 2005

Compilation of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council deferred from previous sessions held in 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005

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1. Centrist Democrat International
(Special consultative status granted 1950)

Nature and objectives

Centrist Democrat International (CDI) (formerly Christian Democratic International) is an organization of political parties and organizations inspired by integral Christian humanism. Its main values and objectives are as follows: promotion and defence of human rights and national and international peace; recognition of the social nature of the human being and defence of basic social institutions, particularly the family; promotion and defence of democracy and democratic institutions; promotion of integral human development, with respect for nature and the preservation of natural resources; application of subsidiarity, solidarity and justice through the social market economy.

In order to respond adequately to the new realities which have emerged since the end of the cold war and the establishment of democracy in a considerable number of nations, CDI launched an internal reform process which resulted in the adoption, on 8 and 9 June 1995, of a basic document on principles and values of Christian democracy and of new statutes. During the period covered by this report, CDI expanded its geographical scope; its membership increased from 67 members at the beginning of 1994 to 76 members at the end of 1997.

Relations with the United Nations and participation in its activities

CDI representatives have been accredited every year to the three United Nations headquarters (New York, Geneva and Vienna), the regional economic commissions and the Department of Public Information at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

CDI has participated in United Nations conferences, including the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, March 1995) and the conferences on women's rights (Beijing, 1995) and population (Cairo, September 1994). It has also participated in the annual sessions of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, where it has delivered statements on various agenda items.

It has participated in the conference and annual meeting of non-governmental organizations accredited to the United Nations in New York.

The central theme of the Eleventh General Assembly of CDI (Brussels, 8 and 9 June 1995) was the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations.

On 16 April 1994, the Deputy Secretary-General of CDI, together with the Secretaries-General of Socialist International and Liberal International, visited the Secretary-General of the United Nations in New York to express their organizations' support for the World Summit for Social Development, which was to be held the following year in Copenhagen.

The President of CDI met in Geneva on 13 February 1997 with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Director-General of the International Labour Office (ILO) and the Deputy Director-General for ILO Activities in Europe.

International conferences

CDI has held conferences on the following topics, which coincide with the objectives of the United Nations or its subsidiary bodies: "Humanism and democracy in the twenty-first century" (Santiago, 8 and 9 January 1994), at which the President of Chile made a statement; "An economy with a human face" (Manila, 19 to 23 November 1995), at which the main speaker was the President of the Philippines; "Human development in Latin America" (Santiago, 22 to 24 August 1996), at which the President of Chile was the main speaker; "Political development and religious currents in the Mediterranean basin" (Barcelona, 26 and 27 February 1997), at which representatives of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and of the President of the European Union, respectively, made statements; "Globalization and National Identity" (Paris, 6 November 1997), at which the main speaker was the President of Romania.

Promotion of peace and democracy

This is considered to be one of the organization's primary responsibilities and it has received ongoing attention. To this end, the President, Vice-Presidents and Secretary-General of CDI have visited the following countries: Argentina, Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Chile, Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain, France, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Lithuania, Poland, Slovenia, Hungary, Romania, Norway, Israel, Palestine, Tunisia, Morocco, Jordan and the Philippines.

There they met with member parties and organizations of CDI, if any, participated in conferences on topics related to the principles and objectives of CDI and, whenever possible, met with government authorities, religious leaders and leaders of civil society. CDI has issued political statements and press releases on the following topics: elections in Equatorial Guinea; condemnation of the attempted coup d'état in Paraguay; need to advance towards unity in Europe; situation in southern Lebanon; presidential elections in Uganda; presidential elections in the Russian Federation; elections in Nicaragua; situation in the former Zaire; democracy for Myanmar; Oslo Agreement on peace in Guatemala; lifting of the embargo on the shipment of food and medicines to Cuba; proposals of CDI to promote positive change in Cuba; solidarity with the people of Yugoslavia and with the democratization initiatives of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe; threats to democracy in Colombia.

Documents and publications

CDI has streamlined its publications in order to adapt to the new international reality and to its new working methods. Its publications include the CDI newsletter (six issues published in French, English and Spanish) and the proceedings of its international conferences.

2. International Press Institute
(Special consultative status granted 1993)

Introductory statement

The International Press Institute (IPI) is a global network of editors, media executives and leading journalists dedicated to protecting and furthering freedom of the press and improving the standards and practices of journalism. Founded in October 1950 by 34 editors from 15 countries, today IPI has grown into a truly global organization with over 2,000 members in 110 countries. Even though the size of the organization has changed, its philosophy remains the same: that freedom of expression is the right that protects all other rights and that this freedom needs to be promoted and defended.

The Institute's membership is made up of editors and media executives working for some of the world's most respected media outlets. IPI has also established a new membership category, "IPI leading journalists", which is open to heads of media departments, bureau chiefs, correspondents and others. Moreover, in several countries, IPI members have established national committees that support the Institute in its work to improve the situation for the media. IPI is a member of the World Press Freedom Committee.

International Press Institute consultative activities with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies:

January 1997: Paris. An IPI representative attended the third consultative committee meeting in Paris to prepare the United Nations UNESCO European Seminar on Promoting Independent and Pluralistic Media, which was held in September 1997 in Sofia. IPI also provided UNESCO with background information on the situation of the European media.

18-20 May 1997: New York. The IPI Director attended the meeting of the Coordinating Committee of Press Freedom Organizations, of which IPI is a member. The meeting was organized to coincide with the May session of the Committee on Information, during which influential non-aligned countries were once again expected to promote the new world information and communication order (NWICO). The ministers of information of nearly 30 non-aligned countries, at a conference held in Abuja, Nigeria from 3 to 6 September 1996, had called for the revival of the concept of this new world order. In their declaration, the ministers claimed that developed nations were employing their media to disseminate false and distorted information on events taking place in developing countries — the same argument used in the original drive for NWICO in the 1970s.

At a meeting with Samir Sanbar, Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information, the Coordinating Committee was assured that the issue of NWICO would not come up at their 1997 meetings. However, another plan, a United Nations world media conference, is still a possibility and could become more concrete at any given time. The Committee promised to watch closely any developments.

27 May 1998: Moscow. IPI members meeting in Moscow for the IPI annual World Congress and forty-seventh General Assembly issued a resolution urging authorities around the world to reaffirm article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration. At the same event, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mary Robinson, spoke about fifty years of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

December 1998: Vienna. The Institute, in cooperation with Pressclub Concordia and the Austrian newspaper publishers association, marked the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by inviting Henrikas Yushkiavitshus, Assistant Director-General for Communication, Information and Informatics of UNESCO to present a lecture on new threats to freedom of opinion and expression. The lecture was attended by Austrian editors, foreign correspondents, diplomats and parliamentarians from the various political parties of Austria. The event was presided over by Heinz Fischer, President of the Austrian Parliament, who spoke about Austria's commitment to human rights.

21 February 1999: Washington, D.C. The Institute's Director attended a meeting of the Coordinating Committee of Press Freedom Organizations in Washington, D.C. The meeting adopted the following resolution on the successor to Federico Mayor, Director-General of UNESCO:

We, the undersigned representatives of the Coordinating Committee of Press Freedom Organizations, urge that the member States of UNESCO, in their search for a successor to Director-General Federico Mayor, when his term ends in fall 1999, require of any candidate for selection as Director-General that he or she makes a positive, unambiguous and public commitment to reaffirm and emphasise freedom of expression, including freedom of the press. Such a commitment to press freedom is founded in the UNESCO Constitution, and in the five regional declarations (Windhoek, Almaty, Santiago de Chile, Sana'a and Sofia) on promoting independent and pluralistic media that were endorsed by UNESCO's General Conferences.

1 March 1999: Paris. The IPI Director attended an NGO consultation meeting on the societal impact of the new information and communication technologies at UNESCO headquarters in Paris. UNESCO convened the informal meeting to gather the views and expectations of some of its main partners, especially those working in close cooperation with the communication, information and informatics sector.

3 May 2000: Boston, Massachusetts. Louise Fréchette, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, addressed over 400 participants in the IPI annual World Congress at the closing ceremony on World Press Freedom Day (3 May).

4-5 May 2000: Geneva, Switzerland. An IPI representative attended a round table on media in conflict and post-conflict areas organized in Geneva by the UNESCO Programme for Freedom of Expression, Democracy and Peace. Representatives of intergovernmental organizations and nongovernmental organizations met to discuss how to combat war propaganda and hate speech without detriment to freedom of the press and the editorial independence of local media. A charter of recommendations for future action was drafted by the participants at the end of the two-day meeting.

13-15 November: Paris. The IPI Director took part in INFOethics 2000 on the Right to Universal Access to Information in the Twenty-first Century at UNESCO headquarters in Paris. The main themes of the conference were the role of public authorities in access to information; the fair use concept in the information society; and the protection of human dignity in the digital age. The declared aim of the meeting was to examine the possibility of building up an international consensus on ethical and legal principles applicable in cyberspace and to further consolidate the new information society programme of UNESCO.

3. Islamic Relief
(Special consultative status granted 1993)

Introduction

The present report outlines the activities of Islamic Relief in particular its contribution to thework of the United Nations.

Islamic Relief is an international relief and development charity aimed at alleviating the suffering of the world's poorest nations. It is an independent, non-political organization established in 1984. Since then Islamic Relief has grown rapidly and currently spans four continents, initiating emergency and long-term development projects in some of the poorest communities around the world. With its headquarters in Birmingham, United Kingdom, Islamic Relief has nine fund-raising offices registered in Belgium, France, Germany, Mauritius, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States and eleven field offices in Afghanistan, Albania, Bangladesh, Bosnia, Egypt, Kosova, Mali, Pakistan, Palestine, the Russian Federation, Kabardin-Balkar Republic) and the Sudan. Islamic Relief specializes in the following sectors: education and vocational training; health and nutrition; water and sanitation; income generation; orphans' support; disaster preparedness; and emergency relief.

The organization has no relationship with any Government bearing on its management or the orientation of its activities. However, Islamic Relief may accept donations or services from governmental agencies wishing to support certain projects. For example, the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom has financially supported Islamic Relief development and emergency relief projects in Bangladesh, Mali and Pakistan.

Participation in United Nations conferences and meetings

Since 1997 Islamic Relief has participated in numerous conferences and meetings. From May to July 1999 the Islamic Relief field office in Albania participated in various coordination meetings held by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Shkodra, northern Albania to discuss the conditions in the refugee camps and the security of refugees and expatriate staff. In February 2000 Islamic Relief's Emergency Relief Coordinator was present in various meetings in Moscow with UNHCR, the World Food Programme (WFP), UNICEF, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Those meetings concerned the Chechen crisis that had erupted four months before. The same representative participated in meetings during May 2000 in Nazran with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to explore the humanitarian situation for displaced Chechens in the Republic of Ingushetia. In 2000, Islamic Relief participated in other conferences, meetings and workshops in Timbuktu and Bamako, Mali, and in Senegal organized by UNHCR, WFP and UNESCO, including the education for all conference. During the period 1998 to 2000, numerous meetings were held with UNHCR in Bosnia concerning the support for their return programme. On 8 November 2000 Islamic Relief met with WFP in Quetta, Pakistan, for the allocation of wheat for the provinces of Kandahar and Helmand. The following month, on 1 December 2000, WFP formally requested participation in a city-wide food distribution after Islamic Relief submitted a survey/assessment report.

Cooperation with United Nations programmes, bodies and specialized agencies

Kosova

- Mine awareness contract with UNICEF: child to child training, 1999 to 2000
- Mine awareness training contract United Nations Mine-Action Centre: imam and imam wives' training, 1999 to 2000
- Shelter programme contract for returnees UNHCR: 1999 to 2000

Bosnia

- Management Support Services training programme for Bosnian non-governmental organizations, funded by UNHCR in 1999
- Cooperation with UNHCR coordinated return programme to Eastern Bosnia. Islamic Relief built over 200 homes and three schools

Chechnya

- From November 2000 to date, Islamic Relief has been working as an implementing partner for WFP in the Republic of Ingushetia.

Pakistan

- Islamic Relief has been working as a leading implementing partner of UNHCR in refugee camps since 2000. The organization has also been managing two refugee camps on behalf of UNHCR and is also acting in charge of the Chaman staging camp.

Mali

In 1997 Islamic Relief officers agreed on a plan with UNHCR officers to assist in the reintegration of repatriates and displaced people in Gourma-Rharous. UNHCR agreed to contribute 193,763 United States dollars (US$) towards the cost of the project. Islamic Relief officers also participated with WFP representatives to improve cooperation on the ground.

Since 2000 Islamic Relief has worked in collaboration with the following agencies and offices:

- UNESCO, as part of the NGO consortium for the Education for All agenda
- WFP (Mali), in the evaluation mission of the WFP female strategy programme
- WFP (Mali), in the evaluation mission for the school canteens project

Sudan

- UNICEF has supported numerous projects, such as a mother and child health-care and feeding centre in El Obeid, from 1997 to date by providing vaccines, rehydration salts and Unimix for children who suffer from malnutrition
- The vocational training programme and the adult literacy programme in El Obeid were also supported by the World Food Programme through its food-for-work scheme from 1997 onward

Other relevant activities with the United Nations

Islamic Relief worked in the following co-financed projects between 1997 and 1999:

- With UNHCR, a community reintegration project for repatriation in northern Mali
- With WFP, food-for-work activities for the repatriate and resident communities in the circle of Gourma-Rharous, in the region of Timbuktu, Mali
- With WFP, food-for-training activities for the repatriate and resident population in the circle of Gourma-Rharous, in the region of Timbuktu, Mali
- With WFP, the school canteens support project for improvement to girls education in the circle of Gourma-Rharous in the region of Timbuktu, Mali
- In 1997 Islamic Relief became a member of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (CONGO)
- Islamic Relief sought advice from the World Health Organization in 1997 about the tuberculosis crisis in Chechnya, in order to market a proposal for the treatment of victims in the area
- In the same year, at the request of the Geneva office of UNHCR, Islamic Relief submitted information on its operational capacity in the form of a questionnaire

Membership of Islamic Relief, by region

Africa

1. Mali 1 institution
2. Sudan 1 institution

Asia

3. Azerbaijan 1 institution
4. Bangladesh 1 institution
5. Kazakhstan 1 institution
6. Mauritius 1 institution
7. Pakistan 1 institution
8. Palestine 1 institution
9. Russian Federation (Kabardin-Balkar Republic) 1 institution

Europe

10. Albania 1 institution
11. Belgium 1 institution
12. Bosnia 1 institution
13. France 1 institution
14. Germany 1 institution
15. Kosova 1 institution
16. Netherlands 1 institution
17. Sweden 1 institution
18. Switzerland 1 institution
19. United Kingdom 1 institution

North America

20. United States of America 1 institution

4. International Association for Religious Freedom (General consultative status granted in 1995)

1. Introduction

In 2000, the International Association for Religious Freedom (IARF) celebrated the centenary of its founding in Boston in May 1900 as an association of individuals and groups who share a commitment to work for freedom of religion or belief through interfaith understanding and Cooperation. At the end of 2002, the IARF had 100 member groups, 11 national chapters, plus an estimated 1,500 individual members in over 30 countries. Member groups have increased by some 20% since the submission of the last report (1995-1998), but individual membership as such has declined. The programmes of the IARF have been re-organized under the new International Council

(Aug. 1999-2002), and the new General Secretary, who assumed office in April 2000. After a worldwide consultation of the membership, a Strategic Plan (2001-07), including an overall statement of purpose, was adopted by the Council in March 2001. The purpose is derived from Article 18 of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and is, in part, as follows: "The purpose of the International Association for Religious Freedom (IARF) is to work for freedom of religion and belief because it is a precious human right that potentially enables the best within our religious lives, or our search for truth or enlightenment, to flourish. It requires:

- *Freedom from oppressive interference or discrimination by the state, government or Society's institutions on the grounds of religion or belief*
- *Mutual understanding, respect and the promotion of harmony, or at least "tolerance", between communities or individuals of different religions or belief*
- *An essential accountability by religious communities to ensure that their own practices uphold the fundamental dignity and human rights of their members and others*

IARF's activities have been planned and supervised by regional offices, which, by 2002, were located in Bangalore (India), Budapest (Hungary), Dumaguette (Philippines), New York & Massachusetts (USA), and Tokyo (Japan). Oversight of these offices is managed by the organization's International Secretariat, which is based in Oxford, England. Financially, the IARF is principally supported by its membership, but has received one major project grant from the Rockefeller Foundation in the time period covered by this report.

2. ECOSOC Role & UN Interventions

The IARF received category II consultative status with ECOSOC in 1972 and general consultative status in 1995. It last submitted a quadrennial report (1995-98) in 1999. From 1996 until August 2002, the IARF has been represented at meetings of both the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub commission on the Promotion and the Protection of Human Rights in Geneva. IARF representatives expressed concern for situations and victims of religious persecution and intolerance at UN forums. Interventions made at the Commission on Human Rights during the years 1999-2002 were made on the following agenda items:

1999: Interventions on the question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms (item 9), on the question of religious intolerance as relates to civil and political rights (item 11e), on the integration of the human rights of women (item 12), and on the question of minorities with reference to groups and particular individuals (item 14b).

2000: Interventions on all same items as above.

2001: Interventions on items 9, 11e, and 14b.

2002: Interventions on items 9, 14b and, additionally, on the rights of the child (point 13)

Interventions made at the Sub-Commission on Human Rights were on protection of minorities (item 8) in 1999 and on the violation of human rights (item 2) in 2000 and 2001.

3. Co-operation with UN Bodies: Supporting the Special Rapporteur

On 5th December 2001, the new IARF representative resident in Geneva, was instrumental in restarting the Geneva Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief and became its Secretary. One of the primary objectives of this committee is to support the work of he UN Special Rapporteur on questions of freedom of religion or belief. Meetings have been held approximately every six weeks since the end of 2001 and a Hearing with the Special Rapporteur and others was arranged at the 58th session of the Commission on Human Rights in April 2002. A particular effort has been made to encourage joint statements by NGOs both at the 58th session and in preparation for the 59th session. Co-operation with the work of the Special Rapporteur has involved regular meetings with the IARF representatives in Geneva, especially in relation to the "International Consultative Conference on School Education in Relation with Freedom of Religion and Belief, Tolerance, and Non-Discrimination," which was held in Madrid, Spain in November 2001. IARF also worked with the Special Rapporteur in December 2002 in the framework of a meeting sponsored by the *Oslo Coalition for Freedom of Religion or Belief.*

4. Other Activities in Support of the UN

In November 2001, IARF put considerable efforts into supporting activities to celebrate and promote the 20th Anniversary of the 1981 *UN Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance und Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief.* IARF's South Asia Coordinating Council organized, for example, a public function with prominent speakers from different faith traditions at a Sikh venue in Delhi, and IARF has printed the 1981 *Declaration* in poster form for distribution, including as a poster centerfold in the publication *"IARF World"*. In New York, the IARF consistently supports the NGO Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief. IARF representatives attend these meetings regularly and are involved every year in planning activities to observe the anniversary of the *Declaration* in November. Two members of IARF worked as conveners on the topic 'Religion' for the UN Millennium Forum in 2000.

In reference to the UN-sponsored Madrid conference noted above, IARF's International Secretariat assembled a delegation of six persons, including three members with special expertise in education. Our researcher commissioned and carefully edited a booklet of eleven essays to inform delegates on the models and practice of religious education in schools from Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and the Americas. This booklet has been distributed at various UN and NGO forums. Finally, in 2002, the IARF held its triennial Congress in Budapest, Hungary. UN Special Rapporteur, Prof. Abdelfattah Amor, was the principal guest speaker and Prof. Kevin Boyle, Senior Adviser to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, served as a panel moderator.

5. Communications: The *IARF World* is a regular newsletter distributed to membership and other interested parties. It is published twice a year with 4,000 copies produced on each occasion. Specific articles commenting on UN work in the period covered by this report (1999-2002) include:

- "IARF General Secretary Joins Special Rapporteur for UN Address," Issue #1, 1999

- "IARF at the UN in Geneva," April 2000
- "Revival of the NGO Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief," and "20th Anniversary Remembered," (with poster pullout on Declaration) Oct. 2001
- "IARF Makes an Impact in Madrid," "Re-Launch of Geneva-based Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief," and "20th Anniversary Remembered in India," March 2002

IARF's web site (at www.iarf.net) has a UN page reporting on activities at the UN in both New York and Geneva. A 'Global Issues' link also summarizes situations of religious persecution around the world with information gathered from reputable news sources and cited accordingly. These reports are updated quarterly.

5. International Trustee Fund of the Tsyolkovsky Moscow State Aviation Technological University
(General Consultative Status 1999)

1. The aims and purpose of the Fund.

The main goals of the Fund concern the support and development of education, science, culture. Various Programs and Projects of the Fund constitute their main activities. During above period were established: Charitable Public Association Moscow Region Trustee Fund of the Tsyolkovsky Moscow State Aviation Technological University (February 15, 1999), Public Association Moscow Charitable Trustee Fund of the Tsyolkovsky Moscow State Aviation Technological University (June 17, I999), German Support Foundation for the Tsyolkovsky Moscow State Aviation Technological University (November 4, 2000). These organizations together with already existed Funds in Australia, Belarus, United Kingdom, Israel, Cyprus, USA, Czech Republic, France, Siberian Region of Russia form the international system of legally independent not-for-profit organizations which are connected by common aims and programs of the International Trustee Fund.

2. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings.

1. President of the Fund participated in the UN World Forum "Millennium Forum" (May 22 - 26, 2000, New York, USA) by the invitation of the Organizing Committee and made a Presentation about the Fund Activity. **2.** The Seminar "Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) and Economic and Social Council" was organized by Fund in Moscow on August 26, 2000. Dr. Hanifa Mezoui. head of the NGO Department of the ECOSOC, chaired the Seminar. *3.* The work of the Fund's delegation on the Fourth Conference of the Consultative Group of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to implement CNS/ATM systems (February 6, 200 I , Montreal, Canada). **4,** The Fund's participation in organization and carrying out of the World Action "The Earth Day" and realization of international projects "Bell of the World" and "The Earth Flag" (March 20, 2001, Moscow, Russia) in accordance with the Conception "The Earth Day", approved by the UN. The projects are carried out

with the assistance the UN Information Center in Moscow. **5.** The Fund together with the Non-governmental Organizations Sector of UN Department of ECOSOC carried out the Seminar "The role of Non-Governmental Organizations in the realization of new ways of international cooperation in educational, cultural and business spheres" (May 4-6, 2001, New York, USA).

3. Cooperation with UN bodies and specialized agencies.

1. President of the Fund and President of the Council of ICAO signed Memorandum of collaboration between Fund and ICAO (Montreal, 06.02.2001) for the implementation of the CNS/ATM system. 2. Fund joined the International Congress of Non-Governmental Organizations (CONGO) of the United Nations, under the official invitation of the Congress Administration, March 26, 2001. 3. Jointly with the Information Center of the UN in Moscow and with representatives of the most influential Russian public organizations, in March-June, 2002 members o f the Fund conducted a number of meetings where there were formulated and submitted to the government of Russia suggestions to be included into the cumulative report of Russia to the International Summit on the issues of sustainable development held in Johannesburg (26 August - 4 September, 2002). 4. Members of the Fund participated in the meeting of NGO's representatives and Mrs. M. Fedoroff (Moscow, 19.04.2002) on the topic: "Strengthening of relationships between civil society and UN".

4. Other relevant activities. 1. In accordance with the UN recommendations about strengthening of NGO's role in the life of society the Fund in cooperation with International NGO's in consultative status with ECOSOC ("Federation for Peace and Conciliation", UN Association of Russia, Public Fund "Reforma" and others) established the NGO Council under the Chairman of the State Duma of the Russian Federation. **2.** Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions. The Members of the Fund participated in the meeting (18.10.2001, Moscow, Russia) of NGO's in consultative status with ECOSOC for discussion of the Secretary General Mr. K. Anan initiative on the Global Pact. The resolution of discussion was sent to Mr. K. Anan. *3.* On 2-3 October, 2002 in Moscow within the framework of the World Space Week of the UN, the Fund jointly with the Tsyolkovsky Russian Space Academy, Russian Aviation-Space Agency, Space Federation of Russia and other partners conducted The First International Scientific Conference "Cosmonautics of the XXI Century: Problems, Solutions, Perspectives" dedicated to the 45th Anniversary of launch of the first artificial Earth satellite in the USSR; the 10"' Anniversary of Russian Aviation-Space Agency; the 145th Birthday Anniversary of K. Tsyolkovsky and the 95th Birthday Anniversary of S. Korolev.

The activity of the Fund is stipulated by the development and implementation of its Programs and Projects that meet the goals and objectives of the Fund.

International Program "Protection of the Earth Environment".

1. Conference and Exhibition of mayors and heads of cities administrations of Russia "Social, economic and ecological aspects of sustainable city development - 99" (July 1999, Moscow). **2.** International Scientific Conference "Europe - Our Common Home: Ecological Aspects" (December 1999, Minsk, Belarus). It was conducted jointly with the Executive Committee of the Belarus and Russia Union. **3.** All-Russian Conference "Scientific Aspects of the ecological problems of Russia"

(13- 16 June 2001, Moscow). Proceedings are published. **4.** The project "Moscow Ecodrom" is realized jointly with museum of Ecology, Zvolle, The Netherlands.

International Program "Harmonization of the World Air Navigation System".

1. From 3 to 5 July 1999 Fund was one of the organizers of the First passenger flight across the North Pole: Moscow-Krasnoyarsk-Toronto (Canada)-New-York (USA) and back. **2.** International Conference "Aviation and Astronautics - Stages of Development and Perspectives", dedicated to the 90th Birth Anniversary of G. Lozino-Lozinsky, the "Molniya" Association General Designer (December 25, 1999, Moscow). **3.** International Symposium and Exhibition "AVIA 2000". Air Navigation System of Russia-problems and ways of their solving (April 18-20, 2000, Moscow).

International Program "Stages of Space Exploration".

1. The 30'" Anniversary of the appearance on the Moon of the world's First automatic self-propelled machine "Lunokhod- 1 ". Within the project, a series of events dedicated to this memorable date was held in different cities of Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States (2000). **2.** The 35th Anniversary of the Space Center "Plesetzk". A series of events dedicated to the 35th Anniversary of the missile-carrier "Vostok" launch was held on March 16- 18, 200 I in Plesetzk. "Vostok" had brought out the space apparatus "Kosmos- 112" to the orbit, which commemorated the beginning of the First State Experimental Space Center "Plesetzk" operation. **3.** A number of events dedicated to the 20th Anniversary of the Tenth International space crew comprised of the pilot-in-command - V. Dzhanibekov, flight engineer - A. Ivanchenkov, astronaut-researcher, and the first French astronaut J.-L. Chretien (December 1-3, 2002) were jointly funded by the French Embassy and International Trustee Fund of the Tsyolkovsky Moscow State Avaition Technological University (International Trustee Fund of MATI). **4.** In frame of the Program, the Fund jointly with the Embassy of the Czech Republic held ceremonial evenings, dedicated to the 25th Anniversary of the flight of the international space crew V. Remek (Czech Republic) - A. Gubarev (Russia), were organized and carried out in Moscow on February 27, 2003 and in Brno (Czech Republic) on March 10, 2003. **5.** International scientific and practical Conference and Exhibition "Buran - a break towards high technologies", dedicated to the 15'" Anniversary of the successful flight of the multiple-use space shuttle "Buran" (November 19, 2003, Moscow), was held with participation the Russian Engineering Academy and Tsyolkovsky Space Academy. **6.** Fund held events, dedicated 25th Anniversary of the longest (140 days) space flight of the crew - A. Ivanchenkov and V. Kovalenok with participation of the Russian Engineering Academy and Tsyolkovsky Space Academy (November 19, 2003, Moscow).

International Program "Congresses, Symposia, Conferences, Exhibitions".

1. Annual US-Russian Investment Symposium "Financial and Direct Investment Opportunities in Russia" in Boston (USA): January 13-17, 1999; October 5-8, 2000; November 1-3, 2001; November, 4-6. 2002. The Symposium is organized jointly with Harvard University in the line of the Program of international cooperation supported by the Governments of the United States of America and the Russian Federation. **2.** Annual International Conference "Opportunities in High Technology" in Boston (USA) was held on May 18-20, 2000; on 11-13 April 2001; on April 2002; on April 2003 in

cooperation with New England US-Russia Chamber of Commerce. Goals and objectives of Conferences were related to the analysis of American-Russian cooperation in the sphere of medicine, telecommunications, software, discussions on legal aspects of intellectual property protection, certification and other legal issues. **3.** Worldwide Electro-Technical Congress "WETC-99" (July 1999, Moscow, Russia) was conducted jointly with the Russian Academy of Sciences, the International Academy of Electro-Technical Sciences in collaboration with UNESCO, UNIDO. **4.** International Aerospace Congresses is held every three years in Moscow, Russia in consultation with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), in cooperation with: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA); European Space Agency (ESA); American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA); Arianespace (France); Chinese National Space Administration (CNSA); Lockheed Martin Corporation; Israel Space Agency (ISA); Japanese National Space Developing Agency (NASDA). The Third Congress, IAC'2000 (August 23-24, 2000) was dedicated to the 35th Anniversary of the First Man Open Space Walk and to the 25th Anniversary of the docking of "SOYUZ" (Russia) and "APOLLO" (USA); The Fourth Congress IAC'03, dedicated to the 100th Anniversary of the World Aviation was held from August 18 to 23, 2003 in close connection with the International Aviation and Space Salon - 2003. Up to I000 scientists, designers, astronauts from many countries participated in each Congress. Declarations and Proceedings of Congresses are distributed all over the World. **5.** International Exhibition and Seminar "Education-Technology-Market" (October 6-15, 1999, Moscow) was held in cooperation with the National Commission of Assistance in Economic Relations with the Countries of Latin America, the Scientific Council of the Executive Committee of the Belarus and Russia Union. **6.** All-Russian Conference "Education in Russia on the Boundary of the Centuries" (April 24-28, 2001, Moscow) was held jointly with Russian Engineering academy, the Council of Rectors of Higher Educational Institutions of Moscow and Moscow Region. The main goal of the Conference was to determine the new trends in educational technologies in the national system of secondary and higher education. **7.** Annual International Russian Forum "Political Support to US-Russian Collaboration" (May 6-9, 2001, New York and Washington, USA; April 28-30, 2002, Washington D.C., USA; April 28-30, 2003, Washington D.C., USA) were attended by statesmen, representatives of industrial, financial and business circles of Russia and the USA. A Memorandum approved at the closing plenary session of the Forum was forwarded to the Presidents of the Russia and the USA. The United States Senate suggested the motto for the Forum "New Time. New Beginning". There were discussed the issues of Russian-US cooperation in a number of fields including "Aviation and Astronautics".

International Program "Strengthening and extension of international collaboration".

1. In August 2002, by initiative of the Fund and a number of Chinese firms, there was established Technopark in Beijing. The main goal of the Technopark is selection, development and introduction of Russian high technologies. *2.* On 15-18 September, 2002 the Fund organized a trip to Czech Republic for a delegation of Russian machine-building enterprises (Khrunichev Space Center, Machine-Building Plant "Salute", Krasnoyarsk Central Design Bureau "Geophysics", Federal Service "Spetsstroy" of the RF, Krasnoyarsk Mining and Chemical Complex, Reshetnev Scientific-Production Association of Applied Mechanics and others). The delegation participated in the International machine-building Exhibition in Brno.

International Program "World Culture - Basis for Human Progress".

1. The project "Krasnoyarskaya Pushkiniana" was dedicated to the 200th Birth Anniversary of A. Pushkin and was implemented under the patronage of A. Lebed, the Governor of Krasnoyarsk Region. The project assumed a number of charity actions in the Krasnoyarsk Region, including participation in the reconstruction of the Pushkin Drama Theater; organization of participation in the events of the Head of the Representative Office of American Congress Library in Moscow, who presented the Central Library of Krasnoyarsk with microfilins of the unique library heritage of their compatriot-patron of art and collector G. Yudin; edition of Jubilee Collected Works of A. Pushkin in 5 volumes and the Almanac "The Krasnoyarsk Continent". **2.** "International Vocal School" - International Annual Charity Project in Moscow, Russia (May 12-14,2000; April 6-13,2001; May 19-26, 2002; May 18-25,2003). Young opera singers, coaches for singers and vocal coaches from the Metropolitan Opera (New York, USA), the Houston Grand Opera (USA), Opera Theaters and Musical Institutions from Krasnoyarsk, Nizhny Novgorod, Moscow, Saint-Petersburg, Vilnius (Lithuania) and other cities took part. Leading vocal coaches from La Skala (Milan, Italy), the Chicago Lyric Opera (USA), the Munich Opera (Germany), the San Francisco Opera Theater (USA) and others visited the public classes and master-classes.

6. Armenian Assembly of America

(ECOSOC Special consultative status granted 1999)

The Armenian Assembly of America (Assembly) is a nationwide nonprofit organization established in 1972 and headquartered in Washington, D.C. The Assembly promotes public awareness of Armenian issues, encourages greater Armenian-American participation in the American democratic process, and assists in humanitarian and development programs in Armenia. The Assembly has offices in Los Angeles, Boston, New York City and Armenia, where it also maintain the Non-Government Organizations' Training and Resource Center (NGO-C). With members and volunteers in every U.S. state, the core Assembly membership is 1,750 as of the year 2000. Dues-paying members continue to be the Assembly's primary source of income. The Assembly's volunteer arm, the Armenian American Action Committee (Aramac) comprises close to 10,000 individuals throughout the country.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and other United Nations activities

Between 1999 and 2002, the Assembly has been represented by one permanent representative at the UN.

Since gaining a special consultative status in 1999, the Assembly's sole UN Representative served as a member of the UN NGO Committee on Human Rights and the Committee on the Status of Women, and since February 2001, as Secretary of the Education Committee in the Conference of

NGO's (CONGO). In addition to work in these committees, the Assembly participated in the following United Nations activities:

October 17, 2002 – "Women in Media" conference in the run-up to the 47th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), held in New York City.

September 9-11, 2002 – the UN Department of Public Information's (DPI) 55th Annual Conference of NGOs "Rebuilding Societies Emerging from Conflict: A Shared Responsibility" held at UN Headquarters in New York.

May 8-10, 2002 – UNICEF and the General Assembly Special Session on Children.

April 4-12, 2002 – the World Assembly on Ageing in Madrid, Spain.

March 4-15, 2002 – the 46th Session of the UN Commission on Status of Women (CSW), held in New York City. The session focused on gender and natural disaster management.

January 18-February 1, 2002 – 26th Session of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

September 10-12, 2001 – the UN DPI's 54th Annual Conference of NGOs "NGOs Today: Diversity of the Volunteer Experience" held at UN Headquarters in New York.

February 8, 2001 – the conference "Caring Communities for the 21st century" organized by the International Council of Caring Communities at UN Headquarters in New York.

January 29-February 2, 2001 – session of the Preparatory Committee of the Special Session of the 2001 United Nations General Assembly.

August 28-30, 2000 – the UN DPI's 53rd Annual "Global Solidarity Conference: The Way to Peace and International Cooperation" held at the UN Headquarters in New York.

May 22-26, 2000 – the Millennium Forum of NGOs held in preparation to the UN Millennium General Assembly at the UN Headquarters in New York.

Cooperation with United Nations programs, bodies and specialized agencies and other relevant activities

The Assembly's Yerevan Office Director cooperates regularly with the UN Resident Coordinator in Armenia. During his May 2002 tour of the United States, the Assembly facilitated the meetings with the Armenian-American community.

Since 1997, the Assembly's Yerevan-based Non-Governmental Organizations Training and Resource Center (NGOC) cooperates with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to strengthen local NGOs serving refugees, asylum seekers and those seeking citizenship. Grants totaling over $131,000 have been awarded to 16 NGOs working in the refugee/migration sector.

The Assembly cooperated with the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), inviting Armenian-American journalist Florence Avakian to speak at its October 17, 2002 conference on "Women in Media."

The Assembly sponsored the participation by two young girls from Armenia and New York City at UNICEF and the General Assembly Special Session on Children on May 8-10, 2002.

The Assembly also sponsored Hripsime Kirakosian of the Mission Armenia NGO to participate in the World Assembly on Ageing in Madrid, Spain on April 4-12, 2002.

On March 4-15, 2002, the Assembly cooperated with the UN Commission on Status of Women (CSW), by sponsoring Dr. Armine Mikayelian, an expert from Armenia, to be one of the panelists at the 46th Session of CSW.

The Assembly worked with the UN Department of Public Information in preparation for the 54th Annual Conference of NGOs on September 10-12, 2001. The Assembly co-sponsored one of the conference workshops eventually cancelled due to the September 11 attacks.

The Assembly activities at the UN and UN activities in general have received frequent coverage in our press releases, weekly "Assembly This Week" newsletter and other publications.

7. Association for the Prevention of Torture
(Special Consultative Status Granted in 1996)

PART: I General Functioning of the NGO

a. Introduction

The Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT) is an independent non-governmental organization (NGO) based in Geneva, Switzerland, where it was founded in 1977 by local lawyer and banker Mr Jean-Jacques Gautier.

b. Objectives

Its primary objective is to prevent torture and other forms of ill- treatment throughout the world. To achieve this, the APT is committed to:

• Encouraging the adoption and respect of norms and standards banning torture and combating impunity.

• Promoting preventive control mechanisms, such as visits to places of detention by independent experts.

• Organizing training for National Human Rights Institutions, NGOs, Judiciary and State authorities that are in direct contact with detainees, such as Police and Prison Staff.

c. Focus on prevention

The APT remains focused on the prevention of torture. This means that the APT does not publish public reports on torture in particular countries nor does it advocate nor protest on individual cases of torture. This is the job of other human rights organisations. The advantage of the particular focus on prevention is that the APT can offer a real and useful expertise and the APT can work directly with State authorities, in countries that are sincere about wanting to prevent torture but where authorities are wary about working with NGOs that may publicly criticise them.

d. Partnerships

The APT operates in partnership with international and national NGOs, National Human Rights Institutions and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (see Part II below). It is a member of the Coalition of International NGOs Against Torture (CINAT).

e. Programmes

The APT operates in all regions of the world through its two thematic programmes (UN & Legal and Visits to places of detention programmes) and three regional programmes (Africa, Americas and Europe). Every programme runs projects relating to the above-mentioned objectives of the organisation.

f. Examples of non-UN projects in the 2000-2003 period

Assisting the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to draft and adopt, in October 2002, the Robben Island Guidelines to prevent torture in Africa.

Organising an international seminar on "Truth Commissions: Torture, Reparations and Prevention" in Mexico City, July 2002.

Assisting the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Organisation (SARPCCO) draft and adopt the world's first regional code of conduct for the Police, August 2001.

Organising an Americas regional seminar for Ombudsmen on monitoring places of detention, Bogotá, June 2003.

Providing training on the SARPCCO Code of Conduct for Police Officials to the Botswana Police, November 2003.

Providing training to the staff of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to strengthen their capacity to monitor detention centres in the Americas, September 2003.

Organisation of a workshop in Moldova to review the implementation of the recommendations made by the Council of Europe's Committee for the Prevention of Torture, May 2003.

Creation of a unique on-line "Legal Reference Service" providing a database of international, regional and national documents (such as laws, court rulings etc) relating to the prevention of torture, December 2003.

Publication in 2003 of practical guides on monitoring places of detention by NGOs, in English, Russian and French, in co-operation with OSCE and ACAT France.

g. Structure

A Secretary General manages the multi-cultural fourteen-person Secretariat. The Secretariat is supervised by an international Board of eighteen members, which is elected by an Annual General Assembly, in which all of the 384 members of the Association are invited to participate.

h. Funding

The APT remains independent of its financial supporters in all matters of policy and operational strategy.

The APT is funded by: individual members and donations; Foundations (Oak); International Organisations (UN Office of the High Commission for Human Rights, Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe and the Council of Europe; and Governments (Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom).

The average budget during the period 2000 to 2003 was US$ 950,000.

i. Consultative status with inter-governmental bodies.

The APT has consultative status with: ECOSOC (special category), the Council of Europe, the Organisation of American States and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.

PART II: NGO's Participation in the work of ECOSOC, its subsidiary bodies and conferences

a. Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture.

The most significant contribution made to ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies, in the period 2000 to 2003, was in the successful drafting and adoption of the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture, which was adopted by the UN General Assembly in December 2002.

The APT contributed comprehensive textual proposals to the Working Group of the UN Commission on Human Rights that had been requested to draft a text (including by the Vienna World Conference on Human Rights). In close coordination with Costa Rica and Switzerland, the APT organised cross-regional Diplomat and NGO preparatory meetings to foster the best consensus possible on the Protocol, which essentially is designed to assist States parties to the convention to implement better their commitment to prevent torture.

b. Supporting the work of the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture.

The APT has given a particular focus to promote more debate on the follow-up to the recommendations made by the UN Commission on Human Rights Special Rapporteur on Torture, especially after a visit to a country. For example in 2003 the APT organised a meeting of relevant Brazilian NGOs to enable them to compile a report on what had happened to the Rapporteur's report on how to combat torture in Brazil. The Brazilian NGO report was submitted to the Rapporteur, which allowed him to transmit to the Brazilian authorities as a basis to discussion on follow-up to the previous recommendations. *c. Enabling NGOs to submit reports to the UN Committee against Torture* In order for the UN Treaty Body, the Committee against Torture (CAT), to be able to enter into serious dialogue about the States parties' implementation of their obligations, the CAT welcomes alternative reports from international and national NGOs. In order to help the latter group of NGOs, the APT has published guidelines, in English, French, Spanish, Russian and Bahasa (Indonesian) to advise NGOs on how they can submit information to the CAT. *d. Co-operation with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.* The APT has started to work more in co-operation with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in the prevention of torture. A good example of this was the international seminar on Domestic Visiting Mechanisms, in Geneva, July 2003.

8. International Jurists Organization (Asia)
(Special Consultative Status Granted 1999)

Background of International Jurist Organization

International Jurist Organization (earlier known as 'International Jurist Organization (hereinafter IJO")) is an international non-Governmental non-profit organization committed to Global Governance and Human Security. It works for establishment and maintenance of international relations on the basis of law and justice and establishment of international order based on principle justice among nations. IJO supports the UN Charter and it assists United Nations and its specialized agencies

For more than 15 years IJO has been holding Biennial conferences, seminars lectures and workshops in different countries bringing together lawyers, law professors, judiciary academicians, social activists and students. From the day of foundation i.e. 13th December **1987**, IJO with a limited budget and a voluntary Board of Governors, has been continuously hosting events and publicising by writings to further the work of the UN. IJO has now expanded its presence in continents of Africa, Europe and North, Central and Southern America. IJO has participated in various UN events and meetings. IJO president has been accredited as a representative to the UN.

Activities during 1999-2002

1999: In its biennial conference IJO joined World Jurist Association in organizing International Seminar on Judiciary and Human Rights, independence of judiciary, professional training of judges towards enforcement of the rights of the people legal prevention and judicial control of corruption and Globalization and Judiciary. It was attended by Chief Justices, Judges and lawyers of more than 20 countries including Kuwait, Norway, Ghana, Benin, Fiji, Zambia, Nigeria, Mauritius, *Seyc*helles, Czech Republic, France, Indonesia, PRC, India, and Italy (14-17 February **1999**, New Delhi, India).

For encouraging interaction between NGOs of developed and developing countries, IJO invited a student intern from Finland to work on subjects on 'Crimes Against Humanity' and 'International Criminal Court' intern traveled and met NGO representatives in India for 8 weeks (16th June to 10th August, **1999**).

2000: In the year **2000** IJO organized lecture and discussion on "New Developments in International Law and United Nations" by Mr. Tang Chengyuar, Secretary General of 45 countries multilateral body "Asian African Legal Consultative Committee". He spoke about limitations of State Sovereignty, the emergence of rights of the people and individuals at international level and the process of international governance. IJO representatives participated in NGO Millennium forum conference in New York prior to opening of the Millennium Summit (Septembre **2000**). IJO representatives participated in UN NGO meeting at Geneva (**2000**).

In its Biennial programme IJO organized meeting on "Globalization and International Law" where Italian Ambassador, Chinese Diplomat, and Tunisian Diplomat spoke about different dimensions of globalization affecting working of the United Nations. (5th May, **2000**, New Delhi).

2001: On the eve of opening of United Nations General Assembly in the year **2001** IJO delegation led by member of the Board participated in the DPI/NGO Conference on both September, **2001**, but the meeting was disturbed on ***eve*** *of* September 11th, **2001** in New York.

In its continuous programme of UN and Global Governance, IJO arranged lecture and discussion (7th December **2001**, New Delhi), being attended by representatives from Japan, Cuba, China and Egypt.

2002: Celebrating 15th Anniversary of foundation of IJO, IJO organized its meeting on 13th December, **2002** and lecture was organized on 'Globalization, Governance and Rule of Law' being addressed by Chief of the Mission, UNHCR; Deputy Secretary General, AALCC and Secretary of Supreme Court Bar Association.

IJO has decided to launch IJO website, which will include programme and reports of IJO activity, text of special lectures and important articles and comments on: 1) International Organization, 2) UN System, 3) International Criminal Court and 4) International Court of Justice. The website will be updated from time to time.

Apart from above noted event activity, IJO local members in more than 35 countries are supporting UN programme and contributing to press and academic publications.

The following paper published during the reporting period is available through IJO, specifically commenting on the work of the UN:

Seminar Papers and Reports 'Judiciary in Asia' Seminar (February 14-17, **1999**, New Delhi, India).

9. International Service for Human Rights (Special Consultative Status Granted in 1991)

1. Introduction

The ISHR is an international non-governmental human rights organisation based in Geneva, Switzerland, with a branch office in New York, USA. It was created in 1984 to enable human rights defenders and victims of human rights violations to contribute actively and effectively to the promotion and protection of human rights by using the United Nations (UN) systems.

From the outset, the ISHR has played a vital role in empowering human rights organisations and defenders worldwide, in particular through:

- analytical studies and reports on international human rights law and mechanisms, in particular those of the UN;
- training on how to use international and regional human rights standards and procedures;
- strategic advice for effective lobbying and contributions to human rights standard setting;
- practical information and logistical support to enable human rights defenders to take full advantage of international human rights procedures;
- promoting the protection of human rights defenders.

The ISHR consists of the head office in Geneva and a branch office in New York. The ISHR is governed by a General Meeting and a Board. The General Meeting is a broadly representative body that defines the main orientation of the organisation. The Board, elected by the General Meeting, is responsible for supervising the work of the Secretariat and for defining priorities and policies for the plan of action of the organisation.

2. The Information Unit

During the reporting period the Information Unit has continued to produce the "Human Rights Monitor", a review of the major international human rights meetings, the "Info-Pack", a practical up-to-date package of information on all relevant UN meetings, lists for UN special rapporteurs, special representatives, independents experts, working groups, members of treaty bodies, and

contact details of important NGOs and intergovernmental organisations and the publication series entitled "HR-Documentation-DH" which provides supplementary information including the voting records of the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and protection of Human Rights.

In 2003, ISHR's website was greatly developed by the Information Unit. It now provides extensive and timely information on UN and regional human rights systems to a wide range of users.

3. The Education and Training Unit

The Education and Training Unit is responsible for planning, preparing and implementing all the ISHR's training activities. The training combines theoretical explanations of international law, international relations and the international and regional human rights systems, with practical and strategic advice on how to use the UN, regional and national systems effectively.

The Unit organises two core training programmes. First, the "Geneva Training Course in International Human Rights Law and Advocacy" (GTC), an annual seven-week course, runs parallel to the Commission on Human Rights, for up to 30 human rights activists from the regions. Second, "In-Region Training" (IRT) courses, condensed versions of the GTC held in the regions, lasting from three days to one week, for some 30 to 60 human rights activists. The IRT courses focus on specific issues concerning regional and local organisations.

During the reporting period it has convened in-region training courses in Colombia, Croatia, Denmark, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, The Gambia, Indonesia, Ireland, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Russia, Timor Leste, and Uganda,

4. The Human Rights Defenders Office

The ISHR established its Human Rights Defenders Office (HRDO) in October 2000 to respond better to the growing need for promoting the protection of human rights defenders worldwide. One of the main objectives of the HRDO has been to help disseminate and promote understanding and implementation of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognised Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders). The HRDO also supports and promotes the work of Ms Hina Jilani, the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights defenders.

During the reporting period the HRDO has collaborated closely with the mandate of the Special Representative, in Geneva, New York and in the regions, including promoting better understanding and use of the mandate by local and regional human rights defenders, by means of publications, training, specialised seminars, workshops and consultations.

A special focus of the HRDO's work has been the promotion of the development of regional mechanisms for the protection of human rights defenders within existing regional human rights systems, mirroring the mandate and scope of action of the Special Representative. The HRDO strongly promoted and was instrumental in the creation of a Special Unit for Human Rights

Defenders by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, on 7 December 2001 and of a "focal point" on human rights defenders by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, on 20 November 2003. The HRDO has also actively promoted co-operation and co-ordination between the international human rights system and the regional systems in Africa and the Americas, by organising meetings with the Special Representative, the Organisation of American States and its Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in November 2001 and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in May 2002.

5. The New York Office

During the reporting period the New York (NY) Office wrote summaries and reviews of the major international human rights meetings taking place in New York. (Relevant meetings taking place in NY during the period of review for this quadrennial report included: the 57th, 58th General Assembly (GA), the 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th and exceptional session of the Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the 1st, 2nd and 3rd session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the 47th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, the 2002 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, and the second session of the General Assembly's Ad-Hoc Committee on a Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities). The summaries and reviews provide clear, analytical and easily accessible information on current developments concerning human rights at the UN. The Human Rights Monitor is distributed around the world to human rights activists, NGOs, national human rights organisations, and diplomats, in particular those directly involved or working with intergovernmental organisations on human rights issues.

Through collaboration with other human rights NGOs and UN agencies and secretariat (including the OHCHR and the Division for the Advancement of Women) the NY Office has organised informational briefing sessions for civil society and human rights defenders on the international and regional human rights system, including lunchtime briefings on the international human rights system for indigenous peoples during the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and on a lunchtime briefing on the work of the UN independent expert on the right to development for NGOs, UN agencies and government delegates.

10. Peace Education Foundation
(Special Consultative Status Granted in 1996)

The mission of the Peace Education Foundation is to educate children and adults in the dynamics of conflict and promote skills of peacemaking in our homes, schools, community, the nation and the world.

We believe that conflict is a natural, unavoidable phenomenon that can be a constructive opportunity for positive change and empowerment.

We believe in teaching children the skills they need to find creative and constructive ways to settle conflicts. We work with teachers and other adults so that they understand the importance of modelling this behaviour for children to learn.

We believe that children learn best in a caring environment where their self-esteem is nurtured as they are challenged to become responsible decision-makers.

We believe that peace education encourages the emotional, intellectual, ethical and social growth of children within a framework of traditional values such as honesty, justice and responsibility.

Our hope is that as children become adults and leaders they will implement these concepts as a part of their everyday being, so that conflicts whether at an individual level or a country level are dealt with non-violently.

The Peace Education Foundation achieves these aims through the development and publishing of curricula. We train teachers, youth group leaders, community leaders and professionals working with children in conflict resolution and mediation. Our curricular materials are concrete tools for teaching and youth professionals to teach and model the essentials of conflict resolution which are: community building, understanding conflict, understanding the role of perception in a conflict, problem solving and decision making, the role of emotions and anger, and effective communication. Some of the life skills we teach are respect, cooperation, empathy, coping skills, perspective taking, anger management, escalating factors, de-escalating skills, listening, I-statements, tolerance, diversity, and multicultural issues.

Since our last Quadrennial Report we have continued our work in Colombia, Costa Rica and Jamaica. In addition to these peace education initiatives the Peace Education Foundation has begun major projects in Argentina, Dominican Republic, Guatemala and Venezuela.

As a part of our work in Latin America most of our materials have been translated into Spanish.

In Colombia the Peace Education Foundation established a sister organization. We have also continued to work with AFECTO (Asociación Colombiana Para La Defensa Del Menor Maltratado), an advocacy organization against child abuse that also provides services for abused children.

In Costa Rica the Peace Education Foundation continued to partner with Fundación Paniamor. The model we developed with Paniamor has been chosen as a mechanism for violence prevention at a national level.

Peace and Loving Schools Jamaica (PALS Jamaica) our sister organization in Jamaica has continued its work on the island. Both organizations continue to work together and share experiences.

We received a grant from the Adrian Dominican Sisters to work in Argentina, Dominican Republic, Guatemala and Venezuela. We are working in schools in the capital cities of each of those countries as well as in provincial cities and rural areas. Extensive training of teachers, youth professionals,

civic, religious and community leaders has taken place over the past two years. The United Nations and our role as an NGO in consultative status with the United Nations is prominent. In numerous cases our local partners make and display United Nations banners. The participants of our workshops see themselves as "multiplicadores" (multipliers), so we see the extent of our reach as significant. At a recent follow-up workshop in Tucuman, Argentina, just one workshop participant quantified her reach at 2500 individuals.

The Peace Education Foundation continues to work in other hemispheres, but still to a much lesser extent. We continue to collaborate with the Centre for Conflict Resolution in South Africa. Representatives visited with two children's conflict resolution centres in Northern Ireland. The Ministry of Education in the Kurdish part of Iraq requested permission to translate "Peacemaking Skills for Little Kids". They saw this program as critical for transforming their children's present "culture of war" into a "culture of peace" for the next generation.

The Peace Education Foundation was able to send a representative to one of the United Nations Department of Public Information conferences held annually in September. We have been unable to participate in more New York Headquarters activities because of economic considerations.

Locally the Peace Education Foundation is supportive of the United Nations Association. We have worked towards publicizing UNICEF's - United Nations Children's Fund's State of the World's Children Reports.

Peace Education Foundation membership continues to be mostly Western Hemisphere, United States and Canada and the Countries we are working in Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Jamaica and Venezuela.

11. Transnational Radical Party
(Special consultative status granted 1995)

The Transnational Radical Party (TRP) is a Gandhian non-violent international political organization founded in Italy in 1955. The TRP is a membership-based organization. Members include everyday citizens as well as elected officials, both from Parliaments and Governments of different countries and different political affiliations. All members pay their dues on an annual basis. The amount is set for 1% of the member's residence country's GDP.

Since its affiliation with the Council in 1995, the TRP has participated in several UN fora and focused its UN-related work on the promotion and ascertainment of civil and political rights; support for all bilateral and multilateral actions to promote democracy worldwide; support of the activities of the UN ad hoc Tribunals and for the establishment of an International Criminal Court; the support of the adoption of a universal moratorium of capital executions by the UN General Assembly; support for a reform of the UN Conventions on Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances; support for use of Internet Technologies the world over to foster civil liberties and democracy; as well as support for freedom of scientific research and for a civilian conversion of military expenses.

Participation in UN Conferences, Commissions, Committees and other meetings

The TRP has sent delegations to the 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th sessions of the Commission on Human Rights delivering statements on civil, political and economic, social and cultural rights; women's, children's as well as indigenous rights. In addition, the TRP has organized, in collaboration with other UN-affiliated NGOs, briefings for delegations as well as meetings with the press at the UN in Geneva.

The TRP has sent delegations to the 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th sessions of the Sub-Commission on Human Rights, delivering statements on racial discrimination, economic social, cultural and indigenous rights as well as administration of justice. The TRP has organized briefings for delegations as well as meetings with the press at the UN in Geneva.

The TRP has sent delegations to the 44th, 45th sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs delivering statements on supply reduction.

The TRP has sent delegations to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations in 2000, 2001, 2002 at the UNHQ in New York.

The TRP has sent delegations to the 53rd, 54th and 55th Annual DPI/NGO Conference at the UNHQ in New York.

Since the adoption of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court at the Rome Diplomatic Conference of 1998, the TRP has participated in sessions of the Preparatory Commission from 13 to 31 March, from 12 to 30 June, and 27 November to 8 December 2000; from 26 February to 9 March, and from September 24 to 5 October 2001; from 8 to19 April 2002 and from 1 to 12 July 2002.

In November 2002, the TRP sent a delegation to a seminar on the Interdependence between Democracy and Human Rights, organized by the Geneva Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. A position paper on the interconnection between human rights and democracy prepared by the TRP was distributed to participants in the Seminar.

In July 2002, the TRP sent a delegation to the Human Rights Committee and organized a public presentation of its papers on Vietnam's compliance with the international covenants on civil and political rights as well as a briefing with Committee experts.

In August 2001, the TRP sent a delegation to the Durban's World Conference against Racism.

In 2001, the TRP sent a delegation to the Committee on Racial Discrimination and organized briefings with Committee experts in Geneva.

In 2000, the TRP sent a delegation to the 23rd Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Women entitled Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the 21st Century. Held at the UNHQ in New York from 5 to 9 June 2000.

The TRP attended the 2nd Substantive Session of the Preparatory Committee for the special Session of the General Assembly in 2001 as a follow-up to the World Summit for Children at the UNHQ from 29 January to 2 February.

In July 2000, the TRP has sent delegations to the high level session of the Economic and Social Council at the UNHQ in New York

Relations with other non-governmental organizations

Over the years, the TRP has participated in the activities of several NGO Committees and coalitions such as the NGO Committee on Alcohol and Substance Abuse both in New York and Vienna, the NGO Coalition for the International Criminal Court, and the NGO Coalition for an International Auxiliary Language, which it co-founded. In May 2002, it was among the founders of a Steering group of NGOs that will promote activities concerning the reform of the United Nations system. For four years the TRP has been a member of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organization in Consultative Status (CONGO).

Other international fora

A delegation of the TRP has participated in the 2nd conference of the "Community of Democracies" and its non-governmental Forum held in Seoul in November 2002, and in the regional conference of the Community organized on November 14-15 in Bucharest.

The TRP maintains a web site at www.radicalparty.org where press releases, action alerts as well as a variety of UN-related position papers can be found. It also publishes a free of charge electronic newsletter English, French, Spanish, Italian and Esperanto called TransRadicalAction, which contains updates on its UN-related activities.

Promotion of the United Nations

In addition to participating in ad hoc meetings concerning the role and possible developments of the UN system, several TRP members have issued public statements and published commentaries in major newspapers on the subject of the United Nations.

12. Word of Life Christian Fellowship
(ECOSOC special consultative status granted in 1996)

Word of Life Christian Fellowship (WOLCF) is a non government, non profit organization established in 1985. The organization and its secretariat are headquartered in Kingston, Jamaica. The organization is ably assisted by affiliates throughout the wider Caribbean, the United States and the United Kingdom. In November, 1996, the organization was granted special consultative status to the United Nations ECOSOC, and shortly thereafter forged a partnership and an agreement to provide representation for the International Third World Leaders Association (ITWLA). We are also providing representation for the International Communion of Charismatic Churches (ICCC).

Aims and Purposes of the Organization

The organization is structured to facilitate a dynamic flow of information through networking with other governments and groups, in an effort to facilitate partnerships for the exchange of skills, technology, and financial assistance. The objective of the organization is to encourage development and growth; to be a voice in the global community for persons with respect to issues which affect their quality of life and their living conditions. *Inter alia,* WOLCF attempts to encourage inner-city outreach projects; initiate projects related to skills training, academic training, nursery school development, sports, environmental protection, and workshops for entrepreneurs utilising the *Mustard Seed principle.* This principle, which is a Biblical principle, encourages persons to begin with the little resources they have in hand to achieve their visions.

Local and Regional Initiatives/Activities

- Meet and consult with Government officials
- Provide financial and administrative and technical support for other NGO's in the area of social and community development.
- Meet and consult with key business leaders
- Participated and presented papers in major non-UN conferences and seminars.

2000

- Organized first ever non-governmental trade delegation to Jamaica. August, 2000.
- Conducted (2) International Conferences through our affiliate organization the ITWLA in the Bahamas
- The President General and other officers of WOLCF conducted over 300 seminars in over 100 cities covering Leadership Training, Sustainable Development, E-Commerce, Small Business Development, Community Development and the importance of Education.
- The President led a delegation to a meeting at the UN office in Geneva November 27-29, 2000. At this meeting NGO's in consultative status were informed of their rights, responsibilities, privileges, etc.

2003

- WOLCF/ITWLA hosted a Regional Leadership Conference in Jamaica and addressed the topic "Leading in Crisis". We also had the participation and support of the Jamaica Government.
- Our International Third World Leadership Conference in Nassau in November brought over 100 delegated from over 40 countries – mainly Third World Countries. We examined the theme "Effective Leadership for the 21st Century"

Cooperation in United Nations conferences and other meetings

2000

- WOLCF attended the First Substantitive Session of UNICEFs Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly in 2001 for Summit for Children, at the UN Headquarters in New York, from May 30 – June 2, 2000.
- WOLCF submitted a report at the Special Session o f the United Nations General Assembly "Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the 21st Century.

2001

- Delegates from WOLCF attended UNCTAD conference in Brussells for the LDC from 14–20 May.
- The President and other WOLCF officers attended several UN Conferences and meetings and over 100 seminars on 5 continents, covering education, sustainable development, small business development, combating poverty and leading in crisis.

2002

- The President and other officers attended the 29th Session of ECLAC in Brazil and several of the UN meetings in New York and Geneva.
- Delegates from WOLCF/ITWLA attended the 55th Annual DPI/NGO conference in New York, 9–11 September, 2002.

2003

- WOLCF's representative attended the Second Regular Session of the Economic and Social Council's United Nations Children Fund Executive Board, 15-19 September, 2003
- Most of our UN representatives in New York, Geneva and Austria have continued to travel extensively promoting the social and economic mandate of the UN as well as those of our organizations.